

Sustainability policy

The Guildhall School of Music & Drama identifies **sustainable development** as development “*meeting present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs*”. **Sustainability** is a process of ensuring the wise use of all resources within a framework in which **environmental, social** and **economic** factors are integrated and balanced. The Arts Community has always been engaged with promoting the welfare of the community it mirrors and has for many years highlighted the importance of environmental issues. The Guildhall School is committed to placing sustainability at the heart of its mission:-

- making sustainability integral to the delivery of research, teaching and operational objectives;
- taking positive actions to promote continual environmental improvement; and
- setting and achieving clearly defined sustainable development objectives and targets.

Within the framework of the City of London’s Sustainability Policy, the Guildhall School undertakes to:

- Ensure sustainable development principles are at the heart of the School's strategic planning systems.
- Respect the limit of the planet’s environment, resources and biodiversity.
- Raise awareness of environmental issues, and encourage the use of best practice in all areas of operation and partnership working.
- Increase sustainability literacy of students to enhance their opportunities as working professionals.
- Develop the capacities of all staff to promote the understanding of the principles of sustainability.
- Consider sustainability issues throughout the planning, design and construction of all productions and of all capital and other projects.
- Continue to look for environmentally and socially responsible options when buying goods and services in all areas of the School's operation and actively encourage our partners and suppliers to do the same.
- Continue to reduce carbon emissions from the School by increasing energy efficiency and the use of 'green' energy technologies.
- Take steps to reduce, reuse and recycle waste as far as possible and encourage others to do the same.
- Take steps to reduce the negative impacts of transport use on the environment.
- Take steps to reduce use of water and to maximise the efficient use of resources
- Monitor and publish progress towards sustainability objectives

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the School’s Carbon Reduction Strategy which has its own implementation plan specifically aimed at reducing the School’s carbon emissions. Additional actions to achieve the objectives of the Sustainability Policy are listed in Annex A and are monitored on a regular basis.

Date of approval: 17 January 2008 (Directorate)
Approved amendments: 25 February 2011 (Executive Directorate)